

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 5, 2005. Claims 1 to 6 and 10 are in the application, of which Claims 1 and 10 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for her indication that Claims 1 to 6 and 10 contain allowable subject matter. Based on that indication, the formal objections to those claims have been attended to by amendment above, and Claims 7 to 9 have been cancelled.

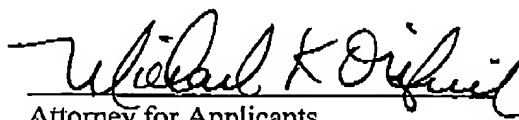
Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent 4,159,790 (Bailey), and Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under § 103(a) over Bailey. Claims 7 to 9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of this rejection in an effort to obtain an earlier allowance of the subject application and to expedite issuance. It is Applicants' current intention to file a divisional application directed to the substance of these rejected claims. Accordingly, this should be viewed as a traversal of the rejections.

Regarding a formal matter, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate her consideration of the art cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 10, 2006.

No other matters being raised, it is respectfully submitted that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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